# THE NOBLE PILGRIM FATHERS.

The Last of Rev. A. S. Twombly's

AN AGE OF GREAT INTOLERANCE.

The Pilgrims Must Not Be Confused With the Puritans-Belief in a Separate Church Government Without the Interference of the State in Affairs.

The last lecture of a series of four delivered by the Rev. A. S. Twombly for the benefit of the Y. M. C. A. Library was given last evening. A large number of people were present, and the lecture was greatly enjoyed by all. The speaker said in part:

The remark attributed to Bishop Williams, of Rhode Island, that the early colonists of New England first fell upon their knees and then on the aborigines, is as false as many other things said of the Pilgrims. The false idea prevails that the Pilgrim Fathers were the same as the Puritans, who settled the Massachusetts Bay Colony. The latter did a grand work, but the Plymouth Colony and its colonists must not be confused with Governor Winthrop and his companions, who were members of the Anglican Church, many of them aristocrats, and with quite a different idea of the union between church and state. The Pilgrims were separatists or congregationalists. They had lived in Holland, and believed that every local church ought to manage its own affairs, without any intervention by the civil gov-



REV. A. S. TWOMBLY. (Sketched from a Photograph.)

ernment. They were plain men who had come to New England to worship according to their conscience, to preserve their children from contaminating influences and to improve their material condition.

It was an age of intolerance. The civil magistrate could pronounce sentence and carry into execution the decree of the church against non-conformists. All honor, then, to the Pil-grims, who not only made great sacrifices for conscience sake, but afforded the only example of true Christian toleration which their times wit-nessed. We shall deal mainly with these Plymouth colonists, as the ex-

ponents of the principle of religious toleration. In 1839 Gladstone published a book, and set forth as a fundamental proposition that "The propogation of religious truth is one of the principal ends of government as government." Ma-

of government as government." Ma-caulay ridiculed this position and showed its fallacy, and Gladstone, himself, in later years, as Premier of England, repudiated in practice his own early theory. The lecturer stated, at some length, the arguments by which the erroneous opinion had fin-ally been overthrown, but demanded for the Pilgrims the honor of being among the very first band of organ-ized Christians to practice religious toleration and to lead the way to an ultimate separation of the church and the state. It is true that they may have held the opinion that the existed and was ordained of God to advance, by all righteous means, the righteousness of its citizens. They had no philosophical or economic arguments to prove that civil magistrates should be chosen from the member-ship of the church, although this was their custom. They simply held that they had the right to govern them-selves, (being left to their own juris-diction), in such a way as they deemed best under the conditions of their exile and desolation. They had fled to America as an asylum. They had no idea of founding a nation. They wished to live peaceably in the exer-cise of their religion, and to bring up their children in the fear of God. Therefore, if intruders forced them-selves into their community, they felt at liberty to expel them, but exercised that liberty charitably and gently. The Plymouth Colony became a refuge of the oppressed and persecuted. This band of men, artisans, weavers, and a few educated leaders, became the nucleus of new ideas of toleration which in due time embraced all the

They had no missionary spirit in regard to other settlers. They sought to influence the savages for good; to convert them if possible, but they were the only Christian people on the face of the earth (except perhaps the Hollanders), who habitually treated with leniency and charity, those who differed with them in religious polity and doctrine. Cromwell could not have joined them, as he had once proposed to unite his fortunes with the Puritans under Winthrop; and had they changed places with the Puritans in the English Parliament, it is doubtful whether England would have won so early by armed resistance, the re-ligious freedom for which the Puritans bravely fought.

It is a remarkable fact that the Pilgrim Fathers in pursuit of religious freedom for themselves, permitted to others a greater latitude of individual opinion than had ever been given before by men in authority. The Scotch Covenanters revenged the persecutions which they suffered. The French Huguenots retaliated upon their tormentors. The Lutherans and Calvinists did not rise above the intolerant spirit of their age. But the Pilgrims were not only free from excesses which disgraced the annals of the Massachusetts Bay Colony, but prac-ticed the amenities due from Christiced the amenities due from Curis-tian people to their neighbors, what-ever their difference in creed. The policy adopted by the Colonists in America, against political disorgan-izers, and which set in motion what seems to us religious persecution, was not known at Plymouth. Even in 1646, they would not join the other Colonists "for the seasonable and due suppression" of heresy. Samuel Gorton and ten followers were compelled by the Massachusetts Bay authorities to labor with an iron chain fast bolted around their legs, and if they spoke to anyone on the subject of religion, or complained of their usage, they were to suffer death. In Plymouth, Gorton had merely been sentenced to give security for good behavior and to

pay a fine. Even witchcraft, which was a popu lar superstition in the Colonies (as it was over all England at that time). and which sent victims to death in a neighboring colony, was never pun-ished at Plymouth, the law against it being a dead letter and never exe-

It is hard for the descendants of the old Pilgrims to understand what it cost to exercise this tolerance in those early days. The ancient Pilgrim trod the bare ground in his cabin. His room was lighted by pure knots. He took his lonely watch at the log fort. A captured Indian squaw, held as hostage, was the most exciting spectacle the ancient Pilgrim's child could see. It was a hard life. Many died from lack of comforts and insufficient food. Toleration under these conditions was heroic, when compared with that in our own day, which is a sort of easy-going allowance of any doctrine which does not disturb the material interests of the community; a tacit agreement between well-to-do neighbors not to interfere with each other's beliefs, provided these views do not stand in the way of the comfort, happiness or morals of the people. The real truth is that the Pilgr ms exercised a hearty toleration, not an intellectual liberality. They were narrow in their views, but they were not bigotted. They knew little of theology, but were well up in Caristian ethics. Their faith was replete with tenderness and mercy. What they loved next to their Bible was thristian fair play. In that age their toleration

fair play. In that age their toleration was almost sublime.

As compared with the Puritans, they lived in a different theological temperature. They were different meu. They left no poems or wise sayings; no memoirs except a simple diary of each day's doings. But they have inspired more poetic thought and verse; have aroused more sympathetic elemence and have written thetic eloquence and have written their deeds across the continent in larger characters than all the rest of the colonists put together. They wrought unconsciously, but glor-iously. What civilized nation has not heard of and honored them! What Christian church has not enshrined Christian church has not enshrined their memory as that of the pioneers of religious freedom! Their tolerance was their own, but it has proved to be a tonic for all generations. If they were "cranks," then welcome that sort of crankiness when it sticks to that sort of crankinesss. They were peculiar. They may have been stern. Let this be true, yet they were no zealots or fanatics, in their scorn of delusions, their aversion of tyrauny, their aversion of tyrauny their hatred of hypocrisy. Let, then, seoffers call Plymouth Rock the Blarney stone of America. We may well stand upon it as the cornerstone of our religious toleration, the one rood of earth where persecution stayed its hand, and man dared to say to the wild waves of cruel zeal, "Thus far, but no farther."

" \* In life and death they teach This thought-this truth-sublime. There's no man free, except he reach Beyond the verge of Time.

"So, beckening up the starry slope, They bid our souls to live; And flooding all the world with hope. Have taught us-to forgive.

## A STRANGE STORY

### Ex-Governor Baker and the British Warship Champion.

A curious story is circulating in Hilo regarding an episode which is claimed to have taken place there. The native adherents of Mrs. Dominis are very confident that she is restored. They believe that the captain of the Champion, when his vessel was off the port, called at the Rev. E. P. Baker's, but left when he found that Mr. Cannavaro, the Portuguese Minis-Baker was a clergyman, stating ter. It refers to rights of Portu-Baker who was governor of the guese citizens who have taken the

Subsequently, the Baker who was governor of the island in the fes- for the first time on Thursday, and tive days of royalty called on board it impressed me with the idea that the man-of-war.

from Hilo in a private letter from a an obligation to take up arms in resident of that town. The natives its defence in case of a conflict, are said to be in high feather, as and in consequence I have interthey consider that Great Britain is viewed the Attorney-General in reon the side of Liliuokalani.

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#### A PLEASANT EXCHANGE.

Compliments of the Geo. W. De Long Post to Dr. Beckwith.

Sometime ago the Geo. W. De Long Post addressed a letter to Dr. Beckwith, to which they have received a reply which was laid before the Post at its last meeting. Both letters follow, and they will be found of interest, both to members of the Post and to the friends | Spectacles or of Dr. Beckwith, which includes about everybody:

REV. E. G. BECKWITH, DEAR PASTOR: As the time draws near for your departure from our midst, memory naturally recalls the many occasions in which you have appeared before this community not merely as the advocate of holy reli-gion, but of education, good citizen-

ship and patriotism.

At a meeting of Geo. W. De Long
Post held lately the undersigned were appointed a committee to express for the Post, the high esteem in which your name and character are held, and to tender the special thanks of the Post for the generous response you have always made when requested to address it on memorial occasions, or to serve in place of a chaplain.

The impression made by your words and manner at all times has been that in your heart of hearts you hold the duty owed by the soldier and the citizen to his country and flag, to be scarcely less sacred than that which he owes to his God, and that love for God, for country and for humanity should be written in each man's creed. So true and perfect has been your sympathy for the soldier in the various phases of his life as to beget a certain feeling of comradeship with you, and make it seem as if you your-self must have had experience of a

Your departure from this com-munity will be felt as a loss and bereavement, not only to the church whose pulpit and pastorate you leave vacant, as well as to the numerous interests in this community to which your aid has always come as a sup-port and a benediction, but also to the comrades of Geo. W. De Long Post.

It is our earnest prayer and hope that health and strength may long be granted you to work in the new field you have chosen, and that your life may be crowned with blessings and With thanks for the past and a hearty God bless you for the future.

We remain, dear sir, Faithfully yours, N. B. EMERSON, Surgeon, R. J. GREENE, Q. M., J. N. WRIGHT, P. C., L. L. LA PIERRE, Adjutant.

To Messrs. W. B. Emerson, Surgeon; L. L. La Pierre, Adjutant; R. J. Greene, Q. M.; Sam McKeague, Post Commander; Committee of Geo. W. De Long Post, G. A. R.

MY DEAR FRIENDS :- Will you par don the long delay of this communi-cation? The days have been too full of the cares and the rough work incident to our transfer, to leave any time for the gentler courtesies.

But now that we find ourselves domiciled once more, and able to get a few moments of leisure, I hasten to acknowledge, with sincerest thanks, your kind testimonial received at the hands of your Post Surgeon just before our departure from Honolulu. It gave me more pleasure than I can

express, to be so lovingly remembered by the members of the Geo. W. De Long Post. It is a body of men whom I hold in highest honor. I not only esteem them as friends and fellow citizens; but I count their names sacred, and hold them in grateful veneration as men who bore a noble part in the grandest conflict the world has ever witnessed. I should think very meanly of myself if I had not shown in every possible way my sympathy with them, and my high appre-ciation of their deserts at the hands of all truth-seeking and liberty-loving men. It has been one of the happiest things of all my glad experience in Honolulu to have shared, in my humble way, in their festivities, and to have had their kindly goodwill. I only regret that I could not have served them better and been more deserving of their loving regard. But none the less I thank them most sincerely for the kind words and good wishes of their parting testimonial. I shall always hold them in honored and grateful remembrance.

Please convey to the members of the Post my warmest greeting and my heartiest gratitude for their message of love and cheer, and accept for yourselves personally the assurance of my most grateful esteem. Very sincerely yours, E. G. BECKWITH.

# NOT AFFECTED BY THE OATH.

The Sentinella, issued today, contains an interview with Senor registration oath. Mr. Canavarro spoke as follows: "I saw the oath the Provisional Government could This is the story which has come claim from those who took the oath gard to the question, and after discussing the matter fully and hearing his opinion, especially on the point that the naturalization laws were not abolished, he convinced me that there was no immediate danger of the Portuguese losing their eign Office, to the effect that the Provisional Government will not consider in any way the citizenship of Portuguese subjects affected by the registration oath."

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THE BOARD OF LADY MANAgers of the Kaniolani Maternity flome take this opportunity and means of extending their sincere tranks to all and everyone who kindly gave their aid and assistance towards the luan held on

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For the Board of Lady Managers.

MRS. E. S. CUNHA,

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